

# SIXTY MILLION FAMILY

IN addition to the hundreds of millions in India and the sister nations of the British Commonwealth there is a great family of sixty millions living under the British Crown in the Colonies. This family is the most variegated assembly of people in the world. Their homes stretch across the continents and oceans, along the great waterways and among the high mountains. From tiny coral atolls in the Pacific to great stretches of Africa; from the cold lands to the hot lands; from the immense interiors of Africa to the isolated loneliness of Atlantic rocks—here are the colonies.

## Red on the Map

It is not a good name for a great fact. To many the word colony suggests dependency and domination. Much of this may have been present in past history, but the war has opened our eyes in Britain to the fact of this immense heritage. We are aware of what "red on the map" means. It is a sign of the Empire, but of an Empire which is different. It is an Empire to which all belong instead of some possessing and others belonging. That is the great new fact of the British Empire. We all belong to it. Red on the map is now a sign of comradeship and fellowship in a gigantic undertaking of training, learning, governing, and understanding, together.

As in any growing family, some members of this family are farther on than others. Some have long ago grown up, passed out, and have set up noble houses for themselves. They have taken the name of Dominions, and they stand erect in the world as independent nations with the tie of a common Crown linking them together.

But the sixty millions of the rest of the family are still growing and expanding in knowledge and wisdom. This growth is the unique fact about the British colonies. No other empire in history has set out to grow together—both mother-country and colonies. The idea is to grow toward independence and freedom, to grow races of alert, self-reliant peoples who will take on their own government and manage their own affairs.

## At the Start of a New Day

Britain is more than ever conscious of that ideal. The war has made her look again at the vast responsibilities she has in the colonies. Thousands of her own young men have seen with their own eyes people of a different colour who salute the same flag and believe in the same working ideals. They have heard something of their aspirations toward freedom—not freedom from a tyrant, but freedom to discover more of their own life. These young men have seen great areas of the world which may be described as "backward" or "undeveloped." They have learned for the first time that they, the visitors, bear some responsibility for the right development of these lands.

THIS sixty million family is at the start of a new day. It has its eyes set forward to new hopes and dreams. In the villages of Africa the boys of curly hair and black faces are dreaming of the school they will go to and the positions they will reach in the government of their native land. In Ceylon the people plan for the day when they will step proudly amongst the Dominions and their island take its place among the elder sons of the great family. In the West Indies

every island is being examined and overhauled so that the hundred-year-old problem of backward life may be finally solved.

A great eagerness is pulsing through the colonies—it is an eagerness to learn. The clean-limbed youth with his flashing smile and eloquent tongue has absorbed something of the wonder of knowing. He, with his books and simple school, is the symbol of new life and new wonder.

THERE is an eagerness, too, to conquer.

The war against ignorance and disease is declared, and there can be no armistice until each colonial land is equipped to dispel ignorance and conquer disease. The enemies still stand thick in the ground—malaria, leprosy, hook-worm, yaws, and tuberculosis. It will take the resources of all the Empire family to rid the colonies of these widespread evils.

## A Twin Campaign

The sixty million family also wants to conquer with its hands. Not all its people want to be scholars and teachers and clerks. The age-old trades and crafts of the tropical lands and the islands of the seas are the natural outcome of men living together and using their hands. There is a rich harvest of beauty and design, of invention and colour, to be reaped when the sixty million family is given scope to produce and sell.

This vast household, like the rest of the races of mankind, wants to have done with slum living and slum thinking. It asks for air to live and work in. It wants houses, and houses in the traditional styles of its peoples. It wants to be itself and lift its life to the standards at which it finds satisfaction. The great family must be fed, and its children given the chance to grow straight and clean. Dirt, disease, and want are the chief enemies in the war which must succeed the present war. It must be a campaign of destruction and construction—a twin campaign to give life and life abundantly.

THE sixty million family asks for big things of the mother and guardian in Britain. It asks for more money. Already vast new sums are being provided. It asks for the service of some of our best young men and women. Here is a chance for life. Here is the crusading ground for youth in the post-war world. Let all who want to make a new world lend a hand here in the re-casting and re-setting of the sixty million family.

## The Greatest Family Test

Yet another big thing the family asks of every man and woman in Britain. It asks for a share in our interest and our affection. This is a big claim upon the hearts and minds of our people, this love for those with whom we cannot speak, and whose skin is of a different colour from our own.

Yet this is the greatest family test of all time. The sixty million family is too vast to meet together for a gigantic party. We have to use the splendour of our imagination to see the miracle of the many in the statements of the few. We have to see through wide windows into this great family house where the colours and the people are so variegated. But to make that effort of imagination and affection is a demand on every one of us in Britain. We must learn to know, and, knowing, believe in, and assist this great sixty million family under our flag.

CHILDREN'S  
NEWSPAPER  
EVERY TUESDAY 3d  
POSTAGE  
Inland 1d  
Abroad 4d  
No 1314  
FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE



## Cookie

Lads who volunteer as cooks in the Merchant Navy take a five-week course at the LCC Westminster Technical Institute, where full-sized galleys are part of the equipment. Here is 18-year-old J. Forbes of Bishop Auckland, who was formerly a cinema-projector operator.

## The Mighty Power of a Volcano

THOUGH Vesuvius is no longer in eruption, there is still a dangerous situation in its neighbourhood. Not only have some 500 feet been added to its height but the craters have become wider, now measuring 500 yards across instead of 80.

Enormous quantities of ash have accumulated upon the upper slopes of the volcano, and the authorities expect that during the rainy season next autumn this will become mud which will pour down the mountainside in great avalanches. It is proposed to spend about £750,000 on the construction of retaining walls of lava blocks to prevent a repetition of the Herculaneum disaster.

It was on August 24, A.D. 79, that an eruption destroyed the top of the mountain, the ashes burying Pompeii and other towns. It was then that Herculaneum was overwhelmed by a torrent of mud. Very serious eruptions occurred in after years.

In 472, ashes fell as far away as Constantinople, and as recently as 1906, Torre Annunziata and other villages suffered seriously.

More recently still, in 1918, an actual change in coastline was caused by a volcano in Iceland.

Mount Katias created, west of Hjarleifs Solfoi, a new headland which, with a width of a mile, projected for a distance of three miles into the sea, making it necessary for navigators to alter their charts.

Two centuries earlier another Iceland volcano poured one river of lava 28 miles in one direction, and a second 50 miles in another direction. Spreading out, the lava reached a breadth of 15 miles at one point; elsewhere it filled ravines and valleys to a depth of 600 feet. Careful estimates prove that, had the lava poured out in this eruption been collected in a single area it would have formed a block 6½ miles long, 3 miles broad, and 1771 feet high.



## THE PHILADELPHIA CHARTER

As CN readers know, the League of Nations set up after the last world war still nominally exists, while the international Labour Office created as part of the League definitely exists.

The ILO has been holding a conference at Philadelphia, and in the absence of League meetings the delegates have in effect discussed subjects which are really the concern of the original League of Nations. Thus, they have been talking about what sort of treatment should be meted out to Germany when the United Nations win the war.

Even more remarkable is their discussion about the formation of a new League and its membership. Some urged that the only proper basis for a world League of Nations is a League of both large and small States as conceived by its originator—President Woodrow Wilson. Others held that, as a practical matter of administration and because of its overwhelming power, a League organised by the four great Allies would ensure the stability and punitive power of the League and make it very difficult indeed for a recalcitrant nation to act aggressively.

Put very simply, should the world entrust its destinies to the Big Four, or should it be controlled by a League combining

the governments of all its peoples?

But the act by which this conference, representing 41 nations, will live in history was its unanimous adoption on May 10 of

*A Charter of Rights affecting the inhabitants of all the world, affirming on their behalf, whatever their race, creed or sex, the right of all human beings to pursue their material well-being and their spiritual development in conditions of freedom and dignity, and of economic security and equal opportunity.*

The ten points of this Charter lay emphasis on matters calling for immediate attention, such as the maintenance of full employment and the raising of standards of living. After Mr Nash, the President of the Conference, had read the entire Charter, sentence by sentence, there was tremendous applause and the hand of every delegate present went up to vote for the Charter's adoption.

Certainly May 10, 1944, will be counted as a Red Letter Day in the history of social reform and human betterment.

## The Allies Warn the Satellites

As the war enters its final phase an eleventh-hour warning has been issued by Britain, the United States, and Russia to Hitler's satellite States.

Allied forces are poised for the attack on Nazi Germany from north and south, from east and west.

The first of these great blows has, in fact, been struck by the Allies in Italy, where the Fifth and Eighth Armies under General Alexander made substantial progress in opening their attack on a 30-mile front.

In their warning to the satellite States the Allies said:

"Through the fatal policy of their leaders, the people of Hungary are suffering the humiliation of German occupation. Rumania is still bound to the Nazis in a war now bringing devastation to its own people.

"The Governments of Bulgaria and Finland have placed their countries in the service of Germany and remain in the war on Germany's side."

## Mosquitoes' Atlantic Hop

Many of the Mosquitoes which are doing such wonderful work for the Allies are built in Canadian factories and flown in stages by way of Greenland or Iceland to Britain.

Recently, however, the first deliveries were made by direct flight from North America to Britain, and the faster of two Mosquitoes made a record journey from Labrador, 2200 miles, in six hours 46 minutes.

The time from coast to coast was only five hours 40 minutes, and the flying time for the whole trip from Montreal, 3100 miles, was a little more than ten hours.

These Governments, the warning went on to say, realise the inevitability of a crushing Nazi defeat and yet they are contributing materially to the strength of the German machine. It is within their power, by ceasing their collaboration with Germany, and by resisting the forces of Nazism, to shorten the struggle and diminish their own ultimate sacrifices. They cannot escape their responsibilities for having fought with Germany, but the longer they continue at her side the more disastrous will be the consequences for them.

"These nations must therefore decide now, while yet there is time for them to contribute to the inevitable Allied victory, whether they intend to persist in their present hopeless and calamitous policy of opposing that victory."

It is an opportunity for the countries concerned to achieve something better than the "unconditional surrender" which is to be Germany's lot.

## AID TO RUSSIA

The Prime Minister has been telling Parliament of the generous aid the British Empire has given to Soviet Russia in her campaign against Germany.

Between October 1, 1941, and March 31, 1944, we have dispatched 5031 tanks, of which 1223 were from Canada; and we have also supplied 6778 aircraft, including 2672 aircraft sent from the United States in exchange for British aircraft.

Over £80,000,000 worth of raw materials, food, machinery, industrial plant, medical supplies, and comforts have also been sent.

## Little News Reels

DURING the first four months of this year Australia shipped 74,000 tons of wheat to India.

There are 60,000 British Jews in the fighting forces.

Sir Gurney Benham, compiler of a famous book of quotations, and an authority on Colchester history, has died at the age of 85.

Liverpool raised £17,524,395 in its Salute the Soldier campaign, a record figure after London's.

Kenya is fighting the biggest locust plague in its history.

Last year the Royal Mint struck 33,345,600 farthings, 76,200,000 halfpennies, and 101,702,400 nickel threepenny bits.

THE Allied Conference at Teheran is to be commemorated there by a silver plaque.

A soldier recently sent to his English home a coconut with the address cut in the shell.

The West Riding Flying Squad of Land Girl rat-catchers, who work in teams and visit farms on a contract basis, have destroyed over 250,000 rats during the last few months.

The Red Cross Agricultural Fund raised £2,128,965 in Britain and Northern Ireland during the past year, bringing the war total to £4,092,375.

In Northern railway depots boys of 18 are being trained as firemen on pilot run-about engines; many of them will be able to shovel 1½ tons of coal a day.

The Canadian National Railway has in one year salvaged nearly a million pounds of newspapers and magazines left behind by passengers.

THE Patriarch Sergius of Moscow and of All Russia has died, aged 78. Last September Sergius obtained from Marshal Stalin official recognition of the Orthodox Church in Russia.

A United Nations Information Organisation, UNIO, has been set up in London.

Boys from London schools have made £100 profit from crops grown on six acres of garden land at St Margaret's School, Great Gaddesden.

## Youth News Reel

LIVERPOOL Scouts recently held a Good Turns Fortnight, and one Troop, cleaning windows encrusted with dirt, "discovered" stained glass, the existence of which was unknown!

Canadian Boy Scouts at Hill Spring in Alberta secured an old log building for a den, and paid for it by securing new-born lambs and pigs, raising them through the summer, and then selling them.

The Air Training Corps is now 190,000 strong, this figure including about 27,000 cadets over 18 who have been accepted for aircrew duties by the R.A.F. and are waiting to be called up.

The Chins Up Fund, started by Canadian Boy Scouts to help their brother Scouts in Britain who have suffered through air raids, and the Scouts of Europe after the war, has just passed the 44,000-dollar mark.

At a Scout conference in Edinburgh attended by members of the Polish forces a neckerchief in Royal Stuart tartan was presented to Madame Malkowska, Chief Guide of Poland. When Peace returns it is hoped to make a similar gift to every Polish Scout who has been in Scotland.

## THE LEARNED MAYOR OF TROY TOWN

By the passing of Q, as Sir Arthur Quiller-Couch always preferred to be called, the beautiful Cornish town of Fowey, has lost the joyous friend who made it famous as Troy Town, and English Literature has lost one of its leading figures.

For most of his 80 years Q was an enthusiastic student and teacher of all that is best in our English language, and gave ample proof, too, that he himself was in the great tradition. Our grandparents were thrilled by his first novel, *Dead Man's Rock*, which he wrote at 24, and in the following year he had everyone laughing with him at the humorous scenes in *Troy Town*, in which the chief figure was the Mayor, an office which Q himself held 50 years later. Many beautifully written novels, poems, essays, and short stories followed, and after the death of Robert Louis Stevenson Q was chosen as the ideal writer to complete his unfinished novel, *St Ives*.

But perhaps Q's greatest contribution to English Letters was his lovely anthology, *The Oxford Book of English Verse*, in which, as he hoped in his Preface, he "so managed it as to serve those who already love poetry and to implant that love in some young minds not yet initiated."

In 1911 Lord Rothermere endowed the King Edward VII Chair of English Literature at Cambridge University for the teaching of literature as an aid to living rather than to learning. When this professorship fell vacant in 1912 Q was appointed,

and for the rest of his life by his sincerity and humane outlook deeply influenced our national attitude towards the Art of Letters; for many of his lectures were published and have revealed unsuspected beauties to thousands of readers.

Grand man of letters as he was, Q never lost his humour or the common touch. Both in the halls and quadrangles at Cambridge and in his crepe-lined house by the water's edge at Fowey he was loved by all, for to all he gave of his best.

Ever a devoted friend of youth and sharer in its joys and aspirations, Q remained loyal to the end to the little Cornish town which meant more to him than anywhere on earth. This is how he spoke of Fowey when he became its mayor:

"While the tides flow up and down the Fowey River, youth will be happy on its banks, and, returning beneath the woods where Tristram and Iseult were lovers two thousand years ago, there will still be the old echo for challenge by Wiseman's Stone, and still at the turn there will be the riding lights, and tomorrow the horizon, the open sea, and adventure for youth."

Fowey will long remember Q; the whole English-speaking world will remember him.

## A Great English Actor

SIR JOHN MARTIN-HARVEY has passed away at the age of 80, and the English Stage has lost an actor stamped with the hall-mark of greatness.

Intended for his father's profession of naval architect, Martin-Harvey early showed leanings towards an actor's career, and was still in his early teens when he made his first appearance at the old Court Theatre in London. When he was 19 he joined Sir Henry Irving's company, and remained with that great master for 14 years—working, watching, learning; and it was in Irving's grand, romantic manner that he made his way to fame.

Many people remember Martin-Harvey in great parts created by Irving—in such plays as *The Lyons Mail* and *The Bells*; many remember his Hamlet, his Richard III, his Oedipus Rex. But countless more remember him in *The Only Way*, adapted from Charles Dickens's *A Tale of Two Cities*; for, as Sydney Carton, impersonating his friend and going forth to die in his place at the guillotine, he was a tragic, noble, and unforgettable figure.

Now Sir John Martin-Harvey has made his last bow. The curtain has been rung down on a career that shed lustre on the English Stage.

## The American Band

The Dell, beside the Serpentine in Hyde Park, is one of the most delightful spots in London, happily remembered as the setting, in the years just before the war, of open-air performances of Shakespeare's *Midsummer Night's Dream*; and recently it was the scene of another happy occasion, for the American Army Band there gave its first performance in this country during this war, and thousands of Londoners, with large numbers of Dominion and Allied troops, rallied round to enjoy themselves. This was the same band which entertained Their Majesties on their visit to America just before the war, and the conductor was a veteran bandsman of the last war.

## SAFE IN THE CAVES

Much has been written, in peace and in war, about the remarkable Chislehurst caves which have recently been visited by the police for a check-up of identity cards among 4000 shelterers.

In the last war the caves were a store for munitions, but this time they have become a vast air-raid shelter which has been furnished, lighted, and heated, and even provided with a chapel. As for safety, only a chance bomb finding entry through some dene hole could do any damage to the inhabitants. Even then the peculiar structure of the caves, with their long and narrow corridors under many feet of solid chalk and earth, makes danger very unlikely.





## Divisional Scouts

The men of the Reconnaissance Regiment, using armoured cars, are the equivalent of the Divisional Cavalry of other days, scouting ahead and seeking information about the enemy. Here are a gunner operator and a section commander on the alert at a battle school in England.

## THE POSTWOMAN'S CLOGS

Miss Jane Preston, aged 71, of Cockerham, in Lancashire, has completed 50 years as the village postwoman.

In that time it is calculated that she has walked 150,000 miles in clogs—and Miss Preston is feeling well enough to declare that she is ready to go on until she is 100.

## PROTECTING TIMBER

What came to be known as a "timber graveyard" has been the laboratory of the Forestry Department of the Trinidad Government for two years. In collaboration with local industry, experts were trying out their concoctions for the preservation of timber against fungus parasites and destructive ants. The "graveyard" was chosen because it was infested with termite ants and grew fungi easily, and test-timbers were buried.

After six months an ordinary, untreated piece of timber would be completely eaten away. But one day the experts dug up a treated piece which was whole and perfect. It had been painted with one of their newly invented chemical mixtures, now known as Shell Wood preservative. This preservative keeps off all ants and fungi, without making the timber sticky, smelly, or easily inflammable. House-builders welcome it, and railway constructors, who were coming to the end of the local hardwoods for sleepers, will be able to resume work.

## The "Everlasting Match" Went Out

SOME years before the war an enterprising young Hungarian invented a match which could be struck and used again and again, perhaps a hundred times. But before it could become popular it disappeared from the scene. There had been other inventions of the kind, but all vanished into thin air—all ended in smoke.

Now the "everlasting match" has cropped up again in the news. The United States has a powerful anti-Trust law, designed to check privilege and monopoly in commodities needed by the mass of the people, and under this law the American Government is taking action against the "match cartel" the

combine of great firms interested in match manufacture throughout the world. The U.S. court, of course, can proceed against only its own match firms, and the representatives of foreign match firms located in the United States.

Among the strongest arguments which enabled the anti-Trust law to be passed was that these cartels, having once sunk vast sums of money in machinery and organisation, were bound in self-defence to obstruct any new invention or development which would put their own manufacture out of date. In the present case the match "ring" is accused of buying up and suppressing all "everlasting match" inventions.

## HULL HERO

Bernard Butler, a 13-year-old Hull boy, has been awarded the Amy Johnson Gold Cup for a very courageous action. Miss Johnson bought this cup from Australian gifts after her flight to the Commonwealth in 1930.

While three children were making a slide on a 20-foot-deep pond the ice gave way and one of them, failing to scramble out, was left clinging to the edge of the ice. With a rope round his waist Butler went to her rescue, but the ice broke and he too fell into the water. As he fell, he managed to grasp the girl, and they were both pulled to safety.

## DUTY FIRST

The story of a boy who stuck to his duty though in pain as a result of an accident, comes to us from Richmond in Surrey. He is 14-years-old Arthur Thomas Knight, a telegraph boy.

While on his way delivering telegrams recently he caught his foot between the floor and the lattice work of a lift gate in a block of flats. Though in great pain he asked that the Post Office should be informed at once, and repeated the telephone number and would not let go of the telegrams until another messenger was there to receive them.

It is understood that the headquarters of the postal authorities have been informed of the incident.

## THE PRICE OF LIBERTY

A committee of the Liberal National Party has given a grim warning to "all true Englishmen" of the danger of government control to the cherished freedom of our people.

In a report entitled *The State and Personal Liberty* the Committee challenges Parliament to recognise its solemn duty to safeguard the rights of the common man. The report states that everybody realises that abnormal controls and strong powers of enforcement are essential in wartime; but at the same time it deplors the existence of the innumerable regulations which for ever harass the unfortunate citizen. It denounces prosecution for petty technical offences which arise more often from excusable ignorance or misunderstanding of government orders than from wilful disobedience. It also strongly criticises the unwarranted delegation of arbitrary powers to officials, great and small.

This report is a stern reminder that eternal vigilance is the price of liberty.

## BARGE TRIPS

Week-end cruises on the Manchester Ship Canal are among the interesting things being done to entertain American and Empire troops stationed in the North. Tugs and barges are used, and during the trips guides point out things of unusual and historical interest.

## DOING SUMS IN THE HEAD

A chimney sweep recently broadcast an account of his life's work and declared that his knowledge of arithmetic at over 70 years was sounder and more reliable than that of the modern schoolboy.

An old cobbler the writer once knew never entered an order in a book but worked out by mental arithmetic the amount of every customer's transaction. He never failed to remember the name and the amount owing whoever called for their boots or shoes.

Mental arithmetic is a stimulating and very useful exercise. We wonder if enough attention is given to it in the schools today.

## SAVE THE BIRDS

Cumberland County Council have been so concerned with reports of the wanton destruction of the eggs of wild birds that they have called for the help of all the schoolmasters in their area.

The County Council asks for their aid in preventing damage to the bird-life of country districts by schoolchildren. By thus reducing the numbers of insect-eating birds serious harm is caused to farm lands and allotments, a fact which is seldom realised by young collectors of eggs.

## CARRIERS FOR BOMBERS

Two new aircraft-carriers, the first of their kind in naval history, are in course of construction in America. A third is to be started this summer.

These 45,000-ton giants will carry multi-engined bombers, and will thus make possible the repetition of General Doolittle's twin-engined bomber raid on Tokyo, with the important difference that deck space on the carriers will allow the bombers to return to the ship. Doolittle had to fly on towards China in search of aerodromes.

## Triumph of Surgery in the War

THE famous medical weekly, *The Lancet*, has recently published a valuable analysis of the death rate for wounded casualties suffered by the Army, which shows that it is much lower than in the last war.

Of 28,993 wounds treated in the general hospitals of the Middle East forces for the year ending March 31, 1943, the death rate worked out at only 2.1 per cent as compared from six to ten per cent in the war of 1914-1918.

Many reasons are given for the remarkable improvement. While at forward units the mortality rates are about the same, the better organisation for the collection of the wounded for treatment has greatly increased the

chance of survival. A much better mobility in field surgical units in advanced areas, too, enables wounds to be treated with promptitude. Evacuation by air was freely used for long distances. Then there is the extension of the blood transfusion service, which has brought about a higher standard of recovery. It is stated that between nine and 18 per cent of the wounded need this service; on the average they received two pints each, but some required 20 pints or more.

The mobility of modern armies is a considerable factor. Wounded men are more likely to recover from wounds when not exhausted by excessive marching.

## PLANE IN HAND

A bird in hand is worth two in the bush is a familiar enough saying, but what is a plane in the hand worth?

An American designer has actually experienced this and, moreover, the machine came indoors to sit lightly on his hand!

Perhaps "plane" is not strictly correct, for the machine was a helicopter, and it was being given a test inside an armoury with a 60-foot-high arched ceiling. The test pilot took it up almost to the ceiling, flew the machine forwards and then backwards and eventually brought it to rest gently on the hand of its designer.

Putting salt on this bird's tail should be easy enough—if it has a tail!

## COAL-FACE SCHOOL

It has been found necessary in the United States to use boy labour in the mines.

The American War Man-Power Commission has established in the State of Utah what is said to be the first school at the coal-face in the history of mining. The new entrants are taken down the pits in batches and taught to hew coal, to operate the coal-cutting machines, and to maintain roads and haulage. It is said that 900 new miners have been taught their trade in the Utah school.

## NEW USE FOR A SIREN

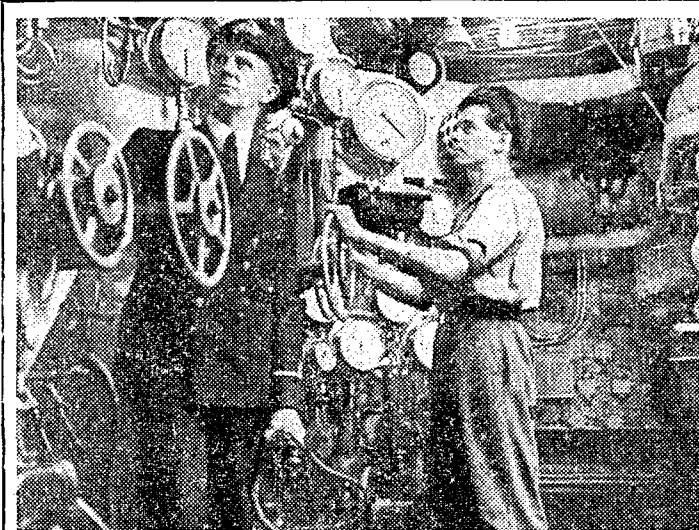
Steel or other magnetic metals embedded in the body can now be detected by an electro-magnetic instrument which shrieks when it approaches them. This siren, as its inventor, Mr Samuel Berman, calls it, was shown to the Medical Society of New York State the other day. Mr Berman expects that he will be able to extend its use to non-magnetic metals.

## FLAGS AND FLAMES

One difference between the present war and the wars of bygone days, even the wars of the later 19th century, is that banners no longer wave over the tented field, and that standard-bearers do not now carry "the colours" in the forefront of battle. On leaving for the front regiments lay up their colours in churches or cathedrals.

What, one wonders, has happened to the battle flags captured in olden times by the armies of the enslaved countries? Some, it is safe to assume, are still safely hidden, pending the glad day of deliverance. Some, like Napoleon's, will have been destroyed.

On a gloomy March evening, 130 years ago, a strange scene was witnessed in the court of the Invalides, where Napoleon was later to be buried. The victorious Allies were due to enter Paris on the morrow, so 1600 flags, trophies captured by the conqueror, were solemnly burnt, in order to lessen the victor's triumph.



## The Heart of a Ship

The corvettes have done splendid work in protecting our convoys. Here is a peep into the engine-room of one of these little ships, showing the Engineer Officer watching the dials while the Chief Engineer Artificer is at the starboard engine controls.



## The EDITOR'S TABLE

### ARTHUR MEE

*A friend sends us this tribute to the Founder of the CN, who died on May 27 a year ago.*

THIS wondrous world which God hath made

He with unflagging zest portrayed.

For truth and purity he stood,  
For all that lovely is and good.

He showed us all a smiling face  
And taught us how to grow in grace.

He knew he was a child of God  
And bade us come the way he trod.  
*David Effaye*

### A Perpetual Battle

THE first death of one of the Bevin boys, who was killed on duty in the coal mines, should remind us that some three or four miners are killed every day. It is well to remember that the normal life of the miner is spent in playing a gallant part in a very arduous and dangerous form of work. It is a daily battle that is fought in the coalmines, in peace as in war.

### The Open Grate

NO fewer than 67 Greater London public authorities were represented at a recent conference of the Advisory Council for Smoke Abatement.

Mr Willink, the Minister of Health, spoke on the Council's proposal that all new houses should be fitted with smokeless heating and cooking appliances, and urged that there should not be more than one open grate. He pointed out that they must face the difficulty that the British people liked their open fire, so that any alternative must be attractive. Research on this subject was not yet done with, he declared, and he announced there was to be an Exhibition of domestic heating appliances.

We must all wish good luck to these efforts, for few things are more important than the abolition of the dirt and senseless hard work which goes with the use of coal in open grates.

## Under the Editor's Table

A LADY wants to give a radio talk on hairdressing. She must get the right wave length.

A JAZZ band has gone on strike. Led by the drummer?

How to make a labour-saving garden. Put down concrete.

HUMAN beings often look like animals. With their eyes.

OWING to water shortage Londoners must mind their taps. Or they'll get raps.

Peter Puck Wants to Know



If pre-fabricated houses will be a put-up job

A COMPOSER says his friends remind him of musical instruments. Have plenty of brass.

BUILDERS are anxious to erect factory-made houses. The Government will let them.

PART-TIME phone girls are wanted. There is a call for them.

THE R A F carried out sweeps over the sea. If it had dropped them in they would have been clean sweeps.

## The Future League of Peace

AT their Conference the other day the Grotius Society decided to make a close study of all the proposals for peace machinery, and thus help the Government to frame a post-war scheme for its preservation in the best possible way.

Hugo Grotius, after whom this society is named, was the eminent Dutch jurist who, early in the 17th century, wrote the Law of Peace and War, a code for the regeneration of the warring Europe of his day, and thus won for himself the title of Father of International Law.

Sir Cecil Hurst, the president of the Grotius Society, reminded the Conference that the rules of international law were binding

on States because they were States, not because they had consented to be bound by rules.

It is notable that at this meeting it was urged by Dr E. Zaslawski, of Poland, that the League ought not to consist only of Great Powers. On the other hand, Professor A. L. Goodhart, of Oxford University, urged the concentration of control in the hands of the great peace-loving powers—Great Britain, Russia, China, the United States, and (he hoped) France.

The original and still nominally existing League of Nations sought to combine all nations, large and small, in its members, and we must not hastily abandon that conception.

## A Quick Way to Erect New Schools

MANY of our readers will be interested in the Report of the Committee appointed to study the problem of planning our new schools, and of erecting them quickly.

In effect, our schools are part of the national housing problem. We want more and better schools, just as we want more and better houses. Too many children and their teachers still work in unsuitable, badly-lit, and unhealthy buildings, which are a real hindrance to education.

The Committee take notice of wartime experience and state that there is no need to suppose

that the adoption of standardisation, with proper safeguards, will fail to provide schools which will be fully satisfactory in both appearance and use.

The Committee also think that schools could be erected more quickly if some system of standardised planning and construction were adopted. It should be borne in mind that the essential requirements of all schools of the same type are identical. It is good to hear this, because we not only need good schools but need them quickly. The Report can be bought for 6d from any bookseller, or the Stationery Office, Kingsway, London, W.C.2.

## A LIVING MEMORIAL

JUST a hundred years ago the great Lord Shaftesbury (then Lord Ashley) became the first President of the Ragged School Union.

Conditions among the poor in those days were almost unbelievable, but this great Victorian fought evil wherever he found it, and the poor of this country have had no greater friend. "I would rather be President of the Ragged School Union than President of the Royal Academy," he said to the England of his day, an England riddled with social snobbery and class distinctions.

When the Ragged School

Union was 50 years old it added the Shaftesbury Society to its title in honour of its first President.

Now, thanks to the work of the good Lord Shaftesbury, the name Ragged School has long been meaningless, and it was announced at the Centenary meeting in London recently, which was presided over by the present Lord Shaftesbury, that the organisation is in future to be known as just The Shaftesbury Society. As such it will continue its beneficent work for children in need of care—a living memorial to the saintly man whose name it bears.

## Children in Danger

IT is very necessary for parents and school teachers to do everything in their power to warn children against handling military or strange-looking objects they happen to come across. Boys too often search places used for exercises by the Army and the Home Guard, who accidentally leave behind ammunition or grenades.

The recent deaths of three young brothers were believed to have been due to their possession of explosives.

## JUST AN IDEA

Look before you leap; but not too long, or you'll be too dizzy to take the jump.



## The Library Calls

A library on wheels is a popular innovation at Edmonton in Alberta, and these young Canadians are seen inside the vehicle changing their books

## The Bonds of Empire

BRITAIN's bomb-scarred but forever hallowed Guildhall witnessed the other day an unforgettable scene of Empire unity of sentiment and resolve, when the Prime Ministers of Australia and New Zealand, Mr John Curtin and Mr Peter Fraser, received the Freedom of the City of London.

Mr Curtin spoke of this unconquerable City in "the cradle of democracy," and declared, "if the British nation, its Allies and the freedom-loving people are defeated, then freedom disappears from the entire world." He said that with the attack on Poland

the Nazis had embarked on an unparalleled plan of world domination, and that this aggression was "as much Australia's business as though they had bombarded the very port of Sydney itself."

Mr Fraser paid a joyful tribute to the USA, "a true and great ally, as close to us as if they were part of our own Commonwealth." Of the Empire he said that the bonds of unity were as light as air, but as strong as the strongest steel. Never before had such a mighty empire of free peoples existed on the face of this earth.

## INTERNATIONAL MONEY

THE House of Commons has given its assent to the international monetary scheme agreed on by British and American experts, accepting it, though with many expressions of doubt, as "a foundation for further consultation."

The most satisfactory point was that it was agreed that this Monetary Fund Plan in no way involved a return to the gold standard. Sir John Anderson declared that the present Government would vehemently oppose any such return.

He put it that the general idea of the plan accepted by Britain and America was that voting power should run parallel with the various nations' contri-

butions of the quotas which made up the Fund, and that the voting power of the British Commonwealth would be for practical purposes equal to that of the United States. Sir John did not give gold figures to the House of Commons, but we read in the United States Federal Reserve Bulletin that at the end of January, 1944, the gold reserve of the US amounted to the gigantic sum of 21,918,000,000 dollars, as against 14,512,000,000 dollars in December, 1938.

Mr Pethwick Lawrence said that for the first time in the history of the world we should have the means to bring pressure to bear on the creditor countries—a step in the right direction.

## New British Air Liners

LORD BEAVERBROOK has stated in a debate on Civil Aviation in the House of Lords that a new flying boat, the Shetland, is to make its first flight in a few weeks' time.

The Shetland is a 100-ton plane, capable of carrying between 50 and 100 passengers, according to the length of the flight. Powered by four Bristol Centaurus engines of between 1800 and 2000 h-p it will have a range of 3000 miles at a cruising speed of 275 m.p.h. It was designed jointly by Saunders Roe and Short Brothers, who

produced the Short flying boats, which have given such fine service on the Empire routes of Imperial Airways and British Overseas Airways.

Mention was also made of a transport development of the Handley Page Halifax, bearing the same relation to that bomber as does the Avro York to the Lancaster. This will have a range of 2000 miles when carrying 50 passengers. Its cruising speed will be over 200 m.p.h., and its maximum speed nearly 300 m.p.h. It will not, however, be in production until 1945.



# The Vision of a New World Order

WHEN Mr Winston Churchill, Prime Minister of Great Britain, visited Ottawa in December, 1941, he made a great speech to a joint assembly of both Houses of the Canadian Parliament. The other day Mr Mackenzie King, Prime Minister of Canada, made an equally characteristic speech to members of Britain's Houses of Parliament, assembled together in the Royal Gallery at Westminster. It was a historic gathering, and Mr Mackenzie King, who has been Prime Minister of his great Dominion for 8 years, spoke eloquently of his country's achievements and of the British Commonwealth's great opportunities in the future. We give a few striking passages from his speech.

IN speaking of Canada's war effort, I place first the aspect I regard as most significant. Canada's war effort is a voluntary effort. It is the free expression of a free nation.

Like the other nations of the Commonwealth at war today, we entered the war of our own free will, and not as the result of any formal obligation. Ours was not a response to a call of blood or race. It was the outcome of our deepest political instinct—a love of freedom and a sense of justice.

Canada's population numbers 11,500,000. Three-quarters of a million of our finest young men are serving in the armed forces. This military demand on our man-power resources has not prevented our country from doubling its pre-war production.

## Canada's Contributions

Thanks to the skill and devotion of our men and women, Canada is a granary, an arsenal, an aerodrome, and a shipyard of freedom.

As a part of our war policy, Canada is sharing, with other of the United Nations, ships, machines, weapons, and other supplies, which we are producing far in excess of the needs of our own armed forces.

Since the war began we have supplied to Britain and to Britain's armed forces war materials and other supplies worth nearly £900,000,000.

Almost half of the supplies represent an outright contribution.

Under our system of mutual aid war materials have, for the past year, been supplied without payment to the United Nations, in accordance with strategic need. Canada is now supplying mutual aid to Britain, Australia, the Soviet Union, China, and the French Committee of National Liberation.

## Looking Beyond the War

Having taken up arms of their own free will, the Canadian people will not relax until freedom is secure. Canada's effort will be an enduring effort.

We have also sought to look beyond the war, to make our effort a long-range effort. The Canadian people, no less than the people of Britain, whose sacrifices have been so great, need the promise of a brighter future. To sustain us in our endeavours we all need the vision of a new world order.

The future security of peace-loving nations will depend upon the extent and effectiveness of international co-operation.

It is not the great Powers only that are needed to defend, to preserve, and to extend freedom. We should be false to the free-

dom for which we are fighting if, at any time, we failed to remember that no nation liveth unto itself, and that nations great and small are members one of another.

But it is not merely the security of nations that is indivisible. Their prosperity also is indivisible.

## British Leadership

Now is surely the time for the whole world to realise that, just as no nation of itself can ensure its own safety, so no nation or group of nations can in isolation ensure its own prosperity.

For my part, I profoundly believe that both the security and the welfare of the nations of the British Commonwealth and, in large measure, the security and welfare of all peace-loving nations, will depend on the capacity of the nations of the Commonwealth to give leadership in the pursuit of policies which, in character, are not exclusive but inclusive.

The present war is different from any war in the past. It is different in scale. It is, moreover, a war that is not confined to the material realm. It is a struggle for the control of men's minds and men's souls. Its outcome will shape the moral destiny of the world.

The support of our fighting men, and our debt to all who are near and dear to them, must extend beyond the theatres of war. It must look beyond the end of hostilities.

## A Fitting Memorial

In the past the sacrifices of human life in war have been commemorated in monuments of stone or bronze. After this war we must create something more fitting as a memorial. That, I believe, will be found only in securing for others the opportunity of a more abundant life.

Our first duty is to win the war. But to win the war we must keep the vision of a better future. We must never cease to strive for its fulfilment.

No lesser vision will suffice to gain the victory over those who seek world domination and human enslavement. No lesser vision will enable us fittingly to honour the memory of the men and women who are giving their all for freedom and justice.

In the realisation of this vision the Governments and peoples who owe a common allegiance to the Crown may well find the new meaning and significance of the British Commonwealth and Empire.

It is for us to make of our association of free British nations "a model of what we hope the whole world will some day become."

# CARRY ON

## FAR FROM CITIES

GIVE me a cottage on some Cambrian wild  
Where, far from cities, I may spend my days,  
And by the beauties of the scene beguiled,  
May pity man's pursuits, and shun his ways,  
While on the rock I mark the browsing goat,  
List to the mountain-torrent's distant noise,  
Or the hoarse bittern's solitary note,  
I shall not want the world's delusive joys;  
But with my little scrip, my book, my lyre,  
Shall think my lot complete, nor covet more;  
And when, with time, shall wane the vital fire,  
I'll raise my pillow on the desert shore,  
And lay me down to rest where the wild wave  
Shall make sweet music o'er my lonely grave.

Henry Kirke White

## Every Moment Beautiful

TO the attentive eye each moment of the year has its own beauty, and in the same field it beholds every hour a picture which was never seen before, and which shall never be seen again. Emerson

## AFTER SUNSET

THE vast and solemn company of clouds  
Around the Sun's death, lit, incarnadined,  
Cool into ashy wan; as Night enshrouds  
The level pasture, creeping up behind  
Through voiceless vales, o'er lawn and purpled hill  
And hazel mead, her mystery to fulfil.  
Cows low from far-off farms; the loitering wind  
Sighs in the hedge, you hear it if you will,  
Though all the wood, alive atop with wings  
Lifting and sinking through the leafy nooks,  
Seethes with the clamour of ten thousand rooks.  
Now every sound at length is hushed away.  
These few are sacred moments. One more Day  
Drops in the shadowy gulf of bygone things.

William Allingham

## No Joy Without a Goal

HE who lives without a goal lives a sorry life. For the life of the mind there can be no joy unless we have a goal before us.

De Gerando

## BUNYAN ON TRUTH

TRUTH informs the judgment, rectifies the mind, Pleases the understanding, makes the will Submit; the memory, too, it doth fill With what doth our imagination please; Likewise it tends our troubles to appease.

# The Upright Man

TO this nobler purpose the man of understanding will devote the energies of his life . . . he will honour studies which impress these qualities on his soul and will disregard others. . . . He will regulate his bodily habit and training . . . not that he may be fair or strong or well unless he is likely thereby to gain temperance, but he will always desire so to attemper the body as to preserve the harmony of the soul. And in the acquisition of wealth there is a principle of order and harmony which he will also observe: he will not allow himself to be dazzled by the foolish applause of the world

and amass wealth to his own infinite harm. He will look at the city of his soul and watch that no disorder occur in it either from superfluity or from want of means; and upon this principle . . . he will regulate his property and gain or spend. . . . He will be a ruler in the city of which we are the founders and which exists in idea only. . . . In heaven there is laid up a pattern of it, which he who desires may behold, and beholding may set his own house in order. But whether such a city exists, or ever will exist, in fact is no matter; for he will live by its laws and no others. Plato

## COME CLOSE MY EYES

SLEEP, downy sleep, come close my eyes,  
Tired with beholding vanities;  
Welcome, sweet sleep, that drives away  
The toils and follies of the day.  
On thy soft bosom will I lie,  
Forget the world and learn to die:  
O Israel's watchful Shepherd, spread  
Thine angel tents around my bed.

Clouds and thick darkness veil thy throne,  
Its awful glories all unknown:  
Oh! dart from thence one cheering ray,  
And turn my midnight into day.  
Thus, when the morn, in crimson dressed,  
Breaks from the chambers of the east,  
My grateful songs of praise shall rise  
Like fragrant incense to the skies. Thomas Flatman

# Man is Not Doomed to Perish

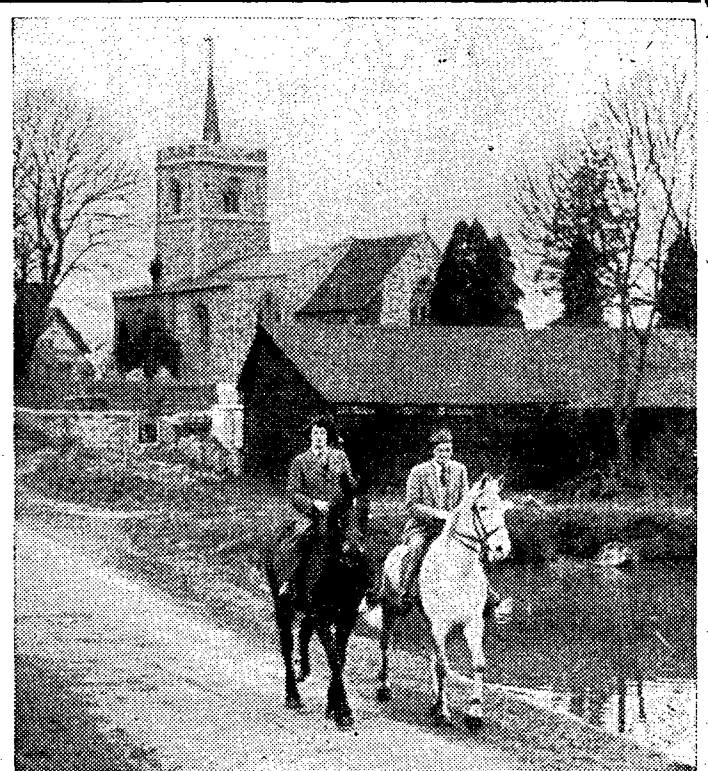
THE future of the world enthralls us as we think of it; but there is something more enthralling to us all—the future of ourselves.

Of what will happen to us we know no more than Shakespeare knew of these invisible powers that are harnessed all about us, enabling us to flash a line from Hamlet round the world faster than he could write it. We know no more of the life to come than Aristotle knew of the functions of the heart, no more than Sir Isaac Newton knew of

electricity. The world we know was closed to them; the world to which we move is closed to us. They had no hint of this life in which we live; we have no hint of the life that is to come.

But man who has come thus far, who has crept up from the dust and mounted to the skies, will not believe that he is doomed to perish in the dust again. The mind that understands the past will shrink from no vision of the future that imagination can conceive.

Arthur Mee



**THIS ENGLAND** The old church in the tiny village of Great Munden, Hertfordshire



## THE OLD CHURCH REMEMBERS

A correspondent has been exploring that ever-expanding region round London where the town invades the countryside. He sends us these notes.

It is still a country lane that turns off the great high road, though buses also turn off to follow its windings. There were very many such unspoiled by-ways outside London till shortly after the last war, but they were soon widened and straightened and spoiled of all their charm, and only by the names, if they retain these, could they now be traced.

Let us hope that this lane, which has survived the fate of so many, will not be "improved" into some characterless stretch surfaced with tar or bitumen, along which post-war motorists will speed without an eye to the beauty around them. For though most of the vast population which lives and works hereabouts could not tell you where the old manor house lies, or anything about the parish church, here they both stand, facing each other, breathing memories of the past, though the house is half burnt out, and the church is blacked out.

But the charms remain. The grand old flint walls stand unharmed, the immemorial lych-gate bears no scars, either of bomb or of modern alteration. Inside the square tower a stairway of oaken half-logs, crudely hewn, tricky to tread unless you are very careful, leads up to the belfry which will one day ring out the news of victory. Old as this relic is, the font is still older, for it is Norman, of Devonshire marble, of a kind not often seen. Early English carving, in stone or

in wood, displays its rough but abiding grace everywhere.

The most recent innovation in the old church is the special corner near the tower which has been curtained off for the children, where they may sit quietly, read, and dream and pray. They bring flowers here, and it is light and gay—and filled with God's presence. Yes, the children come, and they are the children of the village which still retains its identity and its history in the group of old houses and outbuildings gathered around the church which refuse to be swamped by the busy suburb surging all around them.

This land, held 900 years ago by the priest Warherdus, was bequeathed by him as his own patrimony to the Church of Canterbury, though it is a long way from that gracious city, and is no longer in the See of Canterbury. Stigand, last of the Saxon Archbishops, held the manor after Warherdus, and Archbishop Lanfranc's name stands in the Book of Domesday as the lord of the manor after Stigand fled. Archbishop Anselm next owned the manor and met William Rufus here after their quarrel. The Archbishops of Canterbury held the manor right up to the time of Henry VIII, who granted it to one of his friends at Court.

So the old church has dreamed through much of England's ancient and romantic history. Its sturdy walls, its changeless lych-gate, take little note of buses.

## Waterloo, Not Cannae

GENERAL DIETTMAR, the German military commentator, stated in a recent broadcast that the Allies hoped to make their Western Front invasion a Cannae. For our part we look for a Waterloo, for that victory was final, whereas Hannibal's victory over the Romans at Cannae was not, although it has come down in history as one of the most crushing and complete military defeats of all time.

The whole of Hannibal's meteoric career was devoted to the downfall of Rome, the powerful rival of his beloved Carthage. The triumphant armies of Hannibal conquered Spain, and, marching through Gaul, crossed the Alps into Italy, one of the most brilliant military achievements in history. Success after success attended the forces of the conqueror, until on the battlefield of Cannae the dashing horsemen of Carthage annihilated the finest legions of Rome, and the Republic suffered one of the greatest military disasters ever recorded.

Yet Hannibal had reached the height of his prestige, and year after year his threat to the city of Rome declined. His brother Hasdrubal was defeated and slain in battle, and finally, at Zama, in the year 202 B.C., Hannibal himself sustained an overwhelming defeat at the hands of the Roman general Scipio. Seven years later Hannibal was an exile, fleeing from the might of Rome; and until the end of his days he remained a hunted and persecuted fugitive.

That the might and military prowess of this great conqueror finally availed him nothing against the staunch citizen army of Rome should have been a warning to military aggressors for all time.

## No-Profit Scheme For British Power

THE Labour Party has published a plan which seeks to combine all British power resources as a State organisation, so that they may be put to the fullest use as a national service rather than for profit. It would mean:

1. A national Coal and Power Corporation, to own and supervise all the industries concerned.
2. Coal, Gas, and Electricity Boards to be set up under the Corporation.
3. A Coal By-Products Board.
4. A Marketing Board for home and overseas, with regulation of prices.

The members of the Corporation should be selected for their competence to manage the affairs of the industries concerned; they would include representatives of labour. The Coal Corporation, working in the public interest, would assume responsibility for all operations in the productive sphere.

The purchase by the Corporation, which would acquire both the coal mines and all the utilisation industries, would take them over from the existing owners at prices assessed by commissioners.

The National policy would, of course, provide for development inspired by scientific research.

Such a Fuel and Power Corporation, it is claimed, would become one of the most important of State departments.

## WHAT IS HAPPENING TO THE PLANETS?

THE planets Jupiter and Mars may be readily recognised in the western sky in the evening, writes the CNAstronomer, notwithstanding the presence during the next fortnight of a radiant Moon which will enable us to observe only the brighter stars.

Jupiter and Mars now appear to be drawing much closer together, and it will be interesting to watch this continuing during June until they become very close, as shown by the arrows in the star-map. They show the extent of the motion of the two planets, and that Mars appears to be travelling rapidly towards Jupiter. This gradual approach



The approach of Mars to Jupiter, the arrows indicating their path during June

will continue until July 5 when Mars will appear to pass very close above Jupiter.

On Sunday night, May 28, the Moon may be seen almost midway between Mars and Jupiter, and so will be an aid to the sure identification of Mars, which is now so much reduced in apparent brilliance as to appear scarcely as bright as Regulus, the first-magnitude star to the left of Jupiter. Both Mars and Jupiter are now rapidly receding from us and will continue to become fainter as they sink lower into the north-west later on, so we shall not see much more of them in the evening.

At present Mars is 182 million miles away and Jupiter is 512 million miles distant, so we see that their apparent proximity to one another is due only to perspective and that Mars is actually nearer to us than to Jupiter, whose much greater brilliance is due to his immensity; for notwithstanding his much greater distance, Jupiter now appears 7½ times the width of Mars when observed through a telescope. Actually Jupiter is about 21 times the width of Mars.

## FULL MEASURE

AN old friend of the CN has written his memoirs, and the result is a volume of great interest to all who delight in reading autobiography and agree with Pope that the proper study of mankind is Man. It has a special appeal for those who find an evening's quiet, enhanced by a first-hand account of the hurly-burly of newspaper life.

In *Memoirs of George Gilbert Armstrong* (James Clarke & Co. 10s 6d) the author recounts his lively career as journalist, as Liberal, and as a leading Unitarian. Like his great friend Arthur Mee, who was also a Nottinghamshire man, he found his true profession in journalism; and it was in Nottingham, while learning to be a sub-editor under the wise guidance of John Derry of happy memory, that he first met Arthur Mee—then editing an evening paper, "a stripling of sixteen . . . working in his shirt sleeves with extraordinary rapidity and dignity!"

Varied newspaper experience in the Provinces and in Fleet Street led in 1909 to Mr Arm-

Venus is now far beyond the Sun and 161 million miles away; she will be in *superior conjunction*, that is, in "line-of-sight" with him, on June 27 when Venus will apparently pass below the solar disc in a west to east direction. However, Venus will not be observable for another three to four months without telescopic aid, and then late in the autumn we shall be able to see her again as an "evening star" low in the south-west.

Saturn also has vanished and sped away to regions 930 million miles away and far beyond the Sun. Saturn will be in *conjunction* with, and will pass apparently below the Sun on June 21. Uranus is also in the same direction far beyond the Sun and at the colossal distance of 1895 million miles. Even Mercury, the nearest world to the Earth at present, is beyond the Sun and will be, like Venus, in *superior conjunction* with the Sun on July 1, on which day Mercury will apparently pass above the Sun, but of course will be invisible.

### Beyond the Sun

This vanishing of the planets will ultimately result in the morning, evening, and night sky appearing destitute of planets visible to the eye, because they will all appear too near to the Sun to permit observation. If only a total eclipse of the Sun occurred, what an array of planetary orbs would flash into visibility round the Sun during the few minutes that his radiance was hidden!

It is quite a rare circumstance for so many worlds to be assembled together on the opposite side of the Sun and away from the Earth, which is left practically alone on this side. But these worlds will all emerge later on to adorn our night skies.

G. F. M.

## BEDTIME CORNER

### May Magic

It was winter when Rosalie first went to stay with her grandparents at their farm.

It was too cold to play outside very much, but sometimes she used to go with Grandpa up the hill to see his sheep.

In a tiny stone cottage at the very top lived a shepherd and his wife. They always



gave Rosalie a cup of goat's milk and an oatcake when she went to see them.

"Next time," the shepherd's wife said to Rosalie, "you must come in the spring, lovey; that's the time to enjoy the hills."

So when spring came Rosalie arrived at the farm again, and she had grown so much that Granny said: "Why, you're big enough to be

useful! I wonder if you could find your way to the shepherd's cottage and ask his wife if she will come down to do some cleaning for me on Monday?" And Rosalie cried:

"Of course I could, Granny. I remember every step of the way."

When Rosalie had delivered the message she started to go home, but the country was looking so lovely in its spring mantle that she thought she would like to see more of it. She made her way to another path which she had often taken with Grandpa and thought she knew so well. Then suddenly she felt lonely.

All at once she saw, far away in the distance at the bottom of the hill, a big, blue lake that she had never, never seen before.

Rosalie was startled. "Oh, I'm lost!" she cried, and began to run another way.

Nobody knows what would have happened if Granny had not come up and found her.

"But, Granny, where did the lake come from?"

"It's a magic lake," said Granny, with a chuckle. "The fairies put it there every May. Come and look."

And when Rosalie came to the fairies' magic lake she found that it was just a big, big patch of bluebells!



## GREAT PERUVIAN HIGHWAY

A FRANCISCAN friar, Father Alonzo Abad, set out to find his way through the wilds of inner Peru in 1755. He wrote of his explorations and wondrous discoveries, but his book had been forgotten for nearly two centuries when it was taken from the dusty records of the missionaries to solve a problem which was baffling the pioneers of today.

It is because of that book that the new Pacific-Amazon Highway, linking the west and east coasts of South America right across the broadest part of the continent, is now open and "doing business." Save for aeroplane communication, unlikely to be regularly established just yet, there was no such link before in any direct line. From Lima, capital of Peru, to Iquitos, the important Peruvian river-head centre on the inner Amazon, the distance is but 650 miles as the plane flies. But hitherto it has meant a journey some ten times that length, by steamer right up the west coast of South America, through the Panama Canal, down along the north coast of the continent, and then a 2300-mile stretch up the Amazon, a good month's run.

The new highway turns that month into a matter of days. Opened last September by President Manuel Prado of Peru, it is already busy. The general direction is north-easterly, but there are many twists and turns, amidst thrilling scenery, before the new road links Callao with Pucallpa. Callao is the port of Lima, and a famous town, celebrated in many British and American sea-shanties. The road starts here, runs through the capital, then over a 16,500-foot pass in the western Andes to Oroya, where it turns north to run 140 miles through the mountains to Huanuco. The road then follows a river down to a new town called Tingo Maria, built specially to house an experimental station for agriculture, and to ensure a steady supply to the United Nations of much-needed quinine, kapok, and other materials, with tea and hemp to come later on.

Tingo Maria, perched midway between the high plateau and the eastern range, or Blue Cordillera, is pleasantly situated on the Huallaga River, 350 miles north of Lima.

Planned for many years, for Peru is always developing her

road-links, the section of the highway over the Blue Cordillera puzzled the clever engineers of the country until 1933, when one of them came upon a "mystery river" which indicated, from close study of Father Abad's writings, the presence of an unsuspected low pass through this mighty range. In 1937 an exploration party carried Father Abad's records with them to the point reported by the engineer, and their discoveries were of such revealing interest that the new road was at once seen to be practicable. It follows the course of a river named the Yuracyacu for over two miles through a canyon over a mile deep, and is a masterpiece of engineering with its bridges and tunnels.

Emerging from this canyon at a height of about 1400 feet above sea level the highway has been completed through dense tropical jungle and across swamps to Pucallpa on the River Ucayali, where steamers of up to 3000 tonnage can steam in deep water down to the Amazon, and so out into the great Atlantic. Ocean-going boats come up the Amazon as far as Iquitos, and Tingo Maria, in the heart of the rich Peruvian lands still unexplored, will send their products via the highway and the Pucallpa steamers to Peru's great Amazon river-port, for the benefit and enrichment of Peru and all her customers.

## More Pennies Coming

The Exchequer has authorised the Royal Mint to coin more pennies if it is considered necessary. In fact, the coining of pennies has been held up since June 1940, when the issue was stopped in order to save copper, which is, of course, an important munitions material.

The statement is made that the public likes bright new pennies, especially at Christmas time. The Mint, however, thought it well to darken artificially the last issue before sending them to the banks, and so prevent the small issue of bright pennies from creating a demand that could not be satisfied. Few people, it is said, detected this official deception.

## Pavement Profiteers

The shortage of small articles such as pins, hairpins, hooks and eyes has been seized by kerb traders as an opportunity to make exorbitant profits. This in its turn has caused the Board of Trade to settle maximum prices for such articles, the prices to include purchase tax.

Here are some examples: safety-pins 1d for a set of from six to twelve, according to size; ordinary pins 1½d per packet of 80; hooks and eyes 1½d or 2d a dozen; and elastic up to three-sixteenths of an inch wide, 1d to 2d per yard.

## Undesigned Harvest

Just now the island of Ascension, 38 square miles in area, and 760 miles from St Helena, is reaping a harvest for which it neither ploughed nor sowed. The visiting season of the turtles is now at its height, and its sands abound with the myriads of nutritious eggs they lay on the beach.

We remember another harvest of theirs, equally unsought and unusual, that came romantically during the last war. It was in 1917, when a fan-shaped area of about eight square miles suddenly became clothed with grass that botanists identified as *Enneapogon mollis*. Never had such a growth been seen before on the island, and no man had sown the seed. The grass grew, ran its annual course, seeded, and so provided an abiding crop that proved to be as good as the best English hay.

Whence had come this welcome, mysterious vegetation? Birds had brought it!

Every season millions of sooty terns, or wideawakes, flying from the African coast, 900 miles away, visit Ascension Island to lay their eggs on an expanse named after them, Wideawake Plain. The seeds of the wonderful grass, scientists decided, arrived entangled in their feathers. The resultant growth was their gift, as it were, their rent for the nursery where, undisturbed, they brood their eggs and nurture their baby sooties.

## AUSTRALIA'S GOLDEN FLEECE

THE second in bulk of our textile industries based on natural fibres is wool, the most important product of Australia. In the year before the war began, 1938, we imported nearly £30,000,000 worth of raw and waste wool; in the two previous years our imports were on an even larger scale, rising to nearly £49,000,000 in 1937. From this material we produced not only warm woollen clothing for ourselves but a large amount of woollen and worsted yarns and cloth for export, valued at over £35,000,000 in 1937 and over £26,000,000 in 1938.

As we have just been reminded by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, our manufactured exports will be of even greater importance than before the war,

for we have parted with most of our oversea investments while our mercantile marine, which used to be the greatest in the world, has now become second to that of the United States.

Australia naturally wonders what the policy of our Government is to be in regard to the wool crops produced after the present year. At the end of the present season there will be a wool stock in hand of about 10,000,000 bales, the greater part of which will be held in Australia. It is felt that this wool stock, swollen by next season's crops, might help all countries in the work of reviving trade and especially in rebuilding our own woollen and worsted industries.

Four years earlier the future Admiral Sir Henry Keltett had sailed in the *Resolute*, with four other ships, to seek the Franklin expedition, lost in the Arctic. In 1854 Keltett, acting on orders, was reluctantly compelled to leave his little fleet locked in the ice. The *Resolute*, true to her name, defied the ice, and eventu-

ally shook herself free. During the next two years she drifted a thousand miles, to be discovered by Captain J. M. Boddington, an American whaler, who sailed her in triumph to a US port.

Her recovery having been reported to England, the Admiralty waived all claim to the ship, which thereupon became the property of Boddington. Then America did a splendid thing. By a unanimous vote Congress paid Boddington £8000 for the recovered ship, repaired, redecored, and reprovisioned her, and sent her, with her former flags flying, to England. She reached Cowes in December 1856, a few months after the Crimean War had ended. At Cowes the *Resolute* was formally handed over to Queen Victoria in person as an expression of the friendship and goodwill of the American people to the people and Queen of Great Britain.

By this perfect act of chivalry all thought of war between the two countries vanished, and a moving chapter was added to the volume of history's most charming romances.

## A SHIP THAT BORE GOODWILL

THE recent events in the Crimea and the services now being rendered to Britain by American ships have recalled a gesture which promoted much goodwill between this country and USA nearly a century ago, at the time of the Crimean War.

This gesture was enshrined in one of the least of ships, yet it charmed away the threat of war between the two mighty nations.

During the Crimea War, having to seek recruits abroad, we set up an agency in Canada for the enlistment, not only of British, but of willing foreigners. During 1856 we undoubtedly enlisted American citizens in American cities, which was a clear breach of international law. Deeming the British Ambassador at Washington to be implicated, the American Government handed him his passports and desired him to leave the country. Had the American Ambassador in England been similarly dismissed it would have been difficult to avert war. There was no such dismissal, for the American Congress had stepped in, sending across the Atlantic a little ship which was to prove an ark of peace.

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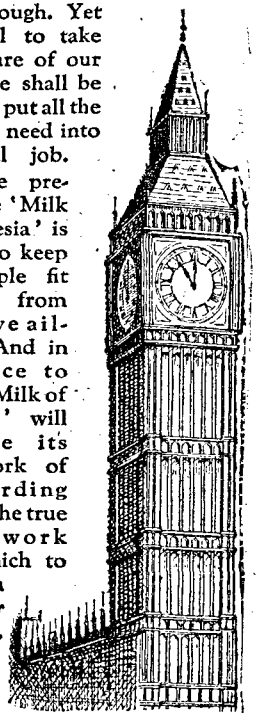
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By this perfect act of chivalry all thought of war between the two countries vanished, and a moving chapter was added to the volume of history's most charming romances.

...when chimes  
the  
Victory hour...

... we shall have another job of work to tackle—winning the peace. It is a task that will call for new ideas and new energy. We have the sound good sense to see it through. Yet if we fail to take proper care of our health we shall be unable to put all the effort we need into this vital job.

At the present time 'Milk of Magnesia' is helping to keep the people fit and free from digestive ailments. And in the Peace to follow, 'Milk of Magnesia' will continue its good work of safeguarding health—the true groundwork upon which to build a better Britain.



'MILK OF MAGNESIA'

Trade mark of Phillips' preparation of magnesia.

## Simple Recipe for Summer Colds

Summer Colds are hard to shift once you get a hold. Here's a recipe which is so popular that practically every chemist keeps it made up and ready to use. A dose or two at the first sign will nip a cold in the bud before it has a chance to develop.

It's the "Parmint" recipe, consisting of 12 different healing, soothing medicaments, and it's really marvellous how quickly it ends that worrying cough which is the first sign of trouble. Even if the cold or cough has got quite a hold, a few doses of Parmint Syrup will soon put things right. Parmint Syrup has one great advantage. Children take it readily. They like its taste.

Be wise. Get a bottle of Parmint Syrup from your chemist to-day and keep it handy. 1/5 the bottle, including tax.

NOTE.—If you want to make it up yourself ask for a 1 oz. bottle of the Parmint Concentrated Essences (price 3/11). It is even more economical that way.



## Jacko the Naturalist



JACKO was a member of his school nature club and had become a very keen student of bird life. One day he trespassed on a farm and, standing on stilts, was jotting down a few notes on wild birds at home.

So intent on his task was Jacko that he did not notice the farmer tie the stilts together. It was with a shock that Jacko heard a gruff voice say: "Now I've caught you fairly and squarely." The farmer's dog laughed and the little birds chirped their glee; and, as the farmer proved quite friendly, even Jacko managed to laugh in the end.

### A Problem With Pennies

PLACE eight pennies in a row, then arrange them into four pairs by moving one penny on to the top of another. Each penny must not be moved more than once and must jump over two pennies in moving. An empty space does not count as a penny, but two coins lying on one space must be counted as two.

Answer next week.

### DO YOU KNOW

THAT the nightingale sings nearly as much by day as it does by night? It is the cock that sings.

That galvanised iron is not galvanised at all? The iron has simply been dipped into molten zinc.

That small flies are not young ones that will grow up? Whatever size they emerge from the pupa they will remain for life.

That clothes-moths do not eat clothes? The damage is done by maggots from the eggs.

### Nature News

IN their large nest in a stunted tree on some moorland crag, the fierce nestlings of the buzzard look hungrily for the return of the parent bird.

Those young moles which were born at the end of April will soon be leaving their underground nest. They are very helpless at first, but when four weeks old can fend for themselves.

Grass snakes are now pairing. They lay their eggs in early summer, and nearly two months later the babies emerge.

Cabbage moths are busy laying their eggs: some start as early as the end of April and others continue into August.

### Why Worry?

THE sea was very choppy, the rowing boat was small. Presently the Englishman suggested to his Irish friend that they should bale the water out.

"Och, niver mind!" replied Pat cheerfully. "When she is full she will run over."

## The BRAN TUB

### The Very Good Reason

"Now children," said the teacher, after a lesson about animals and the different kinds of food they eat, "I like a plate of ham and eggs: why would that be no use to a horse?"

"Please, sir," was the bright reply, "because it can't use a knife and fork."

### THE MISSING LINK

MUSED a lost and disconsolate Mink,

"I don't know what some others may think,  
But to me it is plain,  
And I'll say it again,  
As I'm missing perhaps I'm the link!"

### An Arithmetic Problem

HERE is a little sum in addition. Can you strike out nine of these figures so that the total of those remaining will be 1111?

111  
333  
555  
777  
999

Answer next week.

### Other Worlds

IN the evening Mars is in the west and Jupiter is in the south-west. In the morning no planets are visible. The picture shows the Moon as it may be seen at 10.30 p.m. on



Saturday, May 27.

### Children's Hour

Here are details of the BBC broadcasts for Wednesday, May 24, to Tuesday, May 30.

WEDNESDAY, 5.20 A programme for Empire Day—National songs by the City of London Police Choral Society; followed by a talk by Commander Anthony Kimmins. 5.50 Laurens Sargent.

THURSDAY, 5.20 Tammy Troot's Treasure Hunt, by Lavinia Derwent, told by W. H. D. Joss; followed by songs by the choir of Dalziel High School, Motherwell; and Then and Now, by Major-General John Beith (Ian Hay).

FRIDAY, 5.20 New Serial, The Talisman, a story of the Crusades by Sir Walter Scott. Part 1—Saracen and Crusader.

SATURDAY, 5.20 Little Kid Monday, another story for the very young, by Antonia Ridge; followed by Sandy Macpherson at the organ; and Around the Country-side, a discussion between William Aspdon and two young friends.

SUNDAY, 5.20 The Country Faith, a mosaic of verse and music; followed by Derek Barsham, boy soprano; and a talk by The Woodlander. 5.50 A short service.

MONDAY, 5.20 Serial Story, Stubbington Manor, by Elizabeth Gorell. Part 3—Lovely Food; followed by gramophone records. 5.45 The Zoo Man talks about the Tit family, with song records.

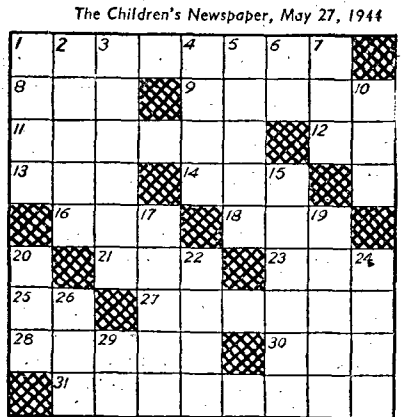
TUESDAY, 5.30 The sixth Children's Concert by the BBC Northern Orchestra.

### Cross Word Puzzle

Reading Across. 1 These have eight sides. 8 To prohibit. 9 A worker wears this to protect the clothes. 11 A kind of riddle. 12 Negative. 13 That, at a distance. 14 Forty-five inches in England. 16 Organ of hearing. 18 To fasten with needle and thread. 21 A large quantity. 23 A hiatus. 25 South Africa. 27 To control. 28 A long pointed weapon, usually thrown. 30 Twenty cwt. 31 A dwelling.

Reading Down. 1 To carry out a command. 2 Light boat propelled by paddles. 3 Threefold. 4 A sporting contest. 5 Iridescent precious stones. 6 Near. 7 Father's boy. 10 To incline the head. 15 An ambassador of the pope. 17 Citizen of an ancient empire. 19 A four-wheeled vehicle. 20 Donkey. 22 Vetch. 24 Closely confined. 26 Fit. 29 Early English.

Asterisks indicate abbreviations. Answer next week.



### A SWARM OF BEES

B Active B Necessary  
B Brave B Obliging  
B Cheerful B Patient  
B Diligent B Quiet  
B Energetic B Reasonable  
B Forgiving B Sympathetic  
B Gentle B Truthful  
B Honourable B Upright  
B Industrious B Valiant  
B Just B Wise  
B Kind B Exemplary  
B Loving B Yourself  
B Modest B Zealous

### Most Appropriate

A DRAMATIST asked a friend to suggest a suitable title for his new play.

"Fire and Water," said the friend after reading the manuscript.

"Splendid!" exclaimed the author. "What made you think of that?"

"Well," was the reply. "I am afraid this play, like fire and water, will produce nothing but a hiss!"

## ODEON

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## FORWARD TO VICTORY!



Apologies to customers unable to obtain BASSETT'S—due to Zoning

## Cold seemed to stifle her until—



the clogged passages were cleared of phlegm with a dose of 'Pineate' Honey Cough Syrup.

This splendid remedy promptly gets to grips with rasping, tearing coughs, eases chest, throat and lungs, soothes and heals and hastens recovery. Only half a teaspoonful of 'Pineate' Honey Cough Syrup will check a cough immediately. 1/9 including Purchase Tax. Good for children too! Take

## 'Pineate' HONEY COUGH-SYRUP

## SHORTHAND

DUTTON ONE-WEEK SHORTHAND is accepted by the Services and examining bodies. Learnt in 12 2-hour lessons. Send 3d. Stamps for First Lesson. Write Dept. C.N., 92-3, Great Russell St., W.C.1.

## IN ONE WEEK